

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No. 10/710,716

Confirmation No. 4715

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Applicant: Ryan M. Hurlbutt

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TC/A.U.:3725

Examiner: Daniel Crane

Docket No. R.75404

Customer No. 022118

South Bend, Indiana 46634  
January 3, 2006

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22131-1450

Restriction Requirement

Sir:

In response to an Election/Restriction requirement letter dated December 23, 2005.

Claims 1-5 were classified in class 72, subclass 336 and

Claim 6 was classified in class 137, subclass 800.

Applicant hereby for purposes of examination hereby elects a claims 1-5 for examination.

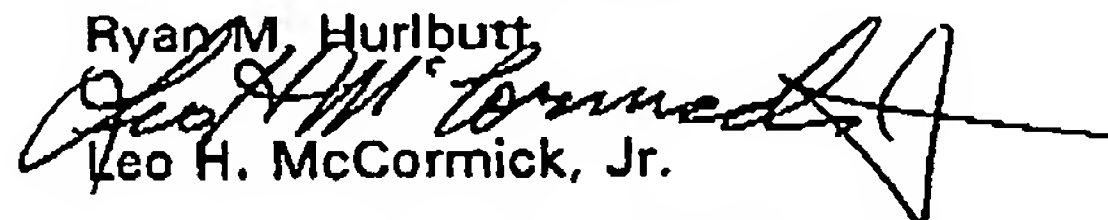
Remarks

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement that separates claim 6 from the independent claims as claim 6 is the product resulting from method the process specifically recited in claims 1,2 4 and 5 and is not the result of some other method of stamping process. Indeed the specific structural features achieved through the steps results in a backing plate that has a specific shape as illustrated in Figure 9 wherein peripheral surface 46 that has original parallel sides 48 connected by arcuate segments 50 is rolled to define a lip 24 with a minimum width "m" for a plate.

Should the examiner have any concerns with respect to the amendment applicant would appreciate a telephone call to discuss such concerns. .

Respectively Submitted

Ryan M. Hurlbutt



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by fax to the United States Patent Office on January 3, 2006 to the following No. 571-273-8300.

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